

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

OpenSIUC

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SIU's credit scores high

KARSTEN BURGSTAHLER
Daily Egyptian

Despite several state funding issues, University President Glenn Poshard said during Thursday's Board of Trustees meeting that the university remains financially viable.

He said recent credit reports from Moody's and Standard & Poor were positive. Moody's gave the university an A2 stable rating. Standard & Poor rated the university A+ stable.

"(The rating) is going to enable us to go out on the market and do very well," Poshard said. "I think it's significant that these two major rating agencies find us to be in good financial shape, as far as the way we have managed our funds."

The ratings will save the university millions of dollars, Poshard said.

The state owes the Carbondale campus nearly \$9.4 million for fiscal year 2012, Poshard said, and the law requires the state to cover the debt by year's end. The state also owes SIU-Edwardsville about \$85,000.

"We're hopeful that we will see that \$9.4 million by the end of December," Poshard said.

He said the two totals are so different because SIUC receives a higher state fund appropriation.

"(The appropriation) is about 60/40," Poshard said. "It would naturally follow that Edwardsville would be caught up first."

The state owes SIUC \$66 million and SIUE \$31 million for the 2013 fiscal year, he said.

"That's one of the things, in terms of cash flow, that we have to keep track of to keep our bills paid," he said.

Poshard said tuition and fees also factor into the university's financial status.

SIUC increased tuition and fees by 30.4% over the past five years, while SIUE raised tuition and fees 31.6% during the same time frame, Poshard said, and the increases are the lowest in the state.

Trustee Vice-Chair Ed Hightower thanked Chancellor Rita Cheng for her efforts to increase student enrollment.

"(Enrollment) is a challenge," Hightower said. "It's not something that can be turned around overnight."

During the Academic Affairs committee meeting, Paul Sarvela, Vice-President of Academic Affairs, announced the Illinois Board of Higher Education will look into ways to change credit hours required for a university degree to lessen students' and government debt.

Sarvela said Complete College America, a national non-profit organization dedicated to making degrees more accessible, would pursue hour caps for degrees. Programs would be required to reduce hour requirements to a maximum of 120 hours for bachelor's degrees.

"It would benefit our programs to take a look at the curriculum and see if there are ways to address time to complete (degrees)," he said.

Sarvela said departments would have to figure out how to reduce hour requirements without affecting the education quality. He thanked the university's musical theater department, which reduced credit hour requirements from 135 to 120. The department's decision came after a majority faculty vote, he said.

Please see TRUSTEES | 4

Majors grow as one



NICOLE HESTER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Karen Midden, professor of agriculture, searches for an open spot Thursday to add new plants to the agriculture building's vertical garden. Midden was planning a place for the new Purple Passions so she could plant them on the building's new green wall today. Students from the architecture, engineering and forestry programs have collaborated with the agriculture department to create the vertical garden. "It shows students in different fields the opportunities of how they can bring plants into a built environment," Midden said.

Aid funding cuts affects students

ELIZABETH ZINCHUK
Daily Egyptian

President Barack Obama's re-election presents the question of whether federal financial aid will be cut.

Chancellor Rita Cheng said aid plays a large role in SIU's enrollment.

Obama said there would be no sequestration cuts. Sequestration refers to mandatory cuts made to federal programs.

"First of all, the sequester is not something I proposed. It's something that Congress proposed," he said Oct. 22 during the presidential debate. "It will not happen."

SIU President Glenn Poshard said as of November, the state is behind in payments and still owes SIU money for both the

previous and current fiscal years. He said \$9 million is owed for the 2013 fiscal year that started July 1, 2012. Poshard said he does not believe he will see the remainder of money owed until December — almost five months into the fiscal year. He said the state owes SIU a total \$107 million.

Families and students who receive financial aid are being affected by the recession. Poshard said this puts pressure on the university to deal with their own financial crises while still helping the students who need financial assistance.

Cheng said 87.5 percent of students enrolled have some type of aid, and 23 percent are student employees.

"It does not bode well," Poshard said. "We have enacted many things that have affected

our operations here at the university."

Poshard said SIU enacted a series of cuts as well as a freeze on hiring to save money. He said many retired university employees have not been replaced in the past two years.

"We cut back and decreased the budgets on all of our colleges, and everything from travel to supply expenses are affected," Poshard said.

He said the state gave SIU \$248 million annually as of 2002, but the university is receiving \$203 million this year.

"If we receive another state cut, we could see the amount go below \$200 million," Poshard said.

Please see AID | 4

Bureau anticipates new director

AUSTIN FLYNN
Daily Egyptian

Carbondale's Convention and Tourism Bureau board director said much work is being done to kickstart the revitalized organization, and an executive director will help the process even more.

"I'll be very excited to have a new executive director," said Roxanne Conley, CCTB board director. "I'm sure the rest of the board will be, too ... because we all have jobs, so getting this back up and running has been yet another full-time job for many of us."

Since the organization's August reinstatement, the City Council established

a board of directors to rebuild a new and improved CCTB, Conley said.

Although many steps were taken to lay the new CCTB's foundation, most positions within the organization are yet to be filled. Conley said an office manager was hired last month to assist the CCTB in rebuilding its website and take some work off of the board's hands.

However, she said an executive director is just around the corner.

The board has received and reviewed more than 22 resumes since its re-establishment, and it will have interviews with the five best applicants within the month.

Not only would an executive director

lessen board members' stress, but it will also allow the organization to flesh out some of the improvements it has planned for the two months, Conley said.

She said the CCTB will implement one specific tactic to separate itself from the former organization.

The bureau will announce its meetings online via the improved website, and it will present details from each meeting monthly to the City Council, Conley said. While many of the organization's facets are still being planned, she said, it will make a concerted effort to be more open to the public at all times.

Please see TOURISM | 4

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PG 7

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Mission Statement

The DAILY EGYPTIAN, the student-run newspaper of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news; information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

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POLICE BLOTTER

NOVEMBER 9

DPS CRIME LOG

— A 19-year-old non-SIU student was arrested Friday in Lot 14 for not having a valid Firearm Owner Identification card. Anthony L. Smythe Jr., of Chicago, posted \$150 cash bond and was released.

— Police responded to a report of cannabis possession Saturday. David E. Wish, an 18-year-old SIUC student from Chicago, was arrested in Lot 106, issued a Carbondale City pay-by-mail citation and released.

— Megan Nicole Etzkorn, a 20-year-old SIUC student from Allendale, was arrested Saturday in Lot 106 for underaged alcohol consumption. Etzkorn was issued a Carbondale City notice to appear and released.

— Police responded to a report of damage to the Wham building

Saturday. Matthew A. Rae and Cody C.Lee, both 18-year-old SIUC students from Chicago, were arrested and charged with defacement of state supported property. They were both transported to the Jackson County Jail.

— A 19-year-old non-SIUC student was arrested Sunday in Schneider Hall for aggravated domestic battery on two SIUC female students. Stephen L. Bennett, of Belleville, was transported to Jackson County Jail. One victim was treated for a broken hand at the Carbondale Memorial Hospital, and the other victim did not require medical treatment.

— Police continued their investigation into the theft of an Apple MacBook Pro from Schneider

Hall Monday. A 28-year-old non SIUC student has been identified as the suspect.

An Apple iPhone 4s was stolen at 3:14 p.m. the engineering building. The iPhone was recovered.

— An 8-year-old juvenile struck another 8-year-old juvenile at 3:53 p.m. while at the Evergreen Terrace bus stop. The case has been has been referred to the State's Attorney Office and the victim did not require medical assistance.

— Mikcale Laroy Smalley, a 19-year-old non-SIU student from Chicago, was arrested Friday in Lot 14 on a failure to appear warrant out of Effingham County on a traffic offense. Smalley was unable to post the required bond and was transported to Jackson County Jail.

SOURCE: CARBONDALE CITY POLICE, SIUC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

PET OF THE WEEK



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OLIVER

PET'S NAME

Oliver is a three year old male Labrador Retriever & Pug mix. He is chocolate in color and has been neutered. Oliver is well trained and already knows tricks like 'sit', 'shake', and 'roll over'. He is looking for an owner that will love him and teach him new tricks!



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OPINION

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GUEST COLUMN

College dating: An important season of possible misery

JARED KINGRY
senior from Omaha, Neb.
studying philiosphy

Dating has been on my mind lately. I've reflected on romantic companionship's role during college and the wide spectrum of my life.

Sometimes an agent of the opposite gender blows my mind so much I rethink everything I know about, well, everything.

Don't worry, I'll keep my digressions focused.

I could not help but feel dirty, a little overwhelmed and damaged re-examining every little scrape and scar left on my heart and mind.

Few of us get through college without getting entangled in hairy relationship problems. Those who have managed to avoid them, and relationships as a whole, find themselves in other issues. Either way, everyone has come across some relation-based, character-

defining moment in his or her life.

So what are we doing it for?

It is as simple as this — the rate at which an individual changes and how they handle those changes.

A relationship can be related to sharing a body of water. If you jump into a pool of water, you become a part of a larger body. What you do affects the water, and what happens to the water affects you.

If the lifeguard throws a huge boulder into the deep end, you'll surely move with the ripples. If you go off into the deep end when you can't swim, you'll pull your companion down in an attempt to stay up.

In high school, most of us are getting used to the idea of swimming in our pools and sharing the water with someone. We are all dependents in high school; therefore, the way we use our pools is limited in respect to our dependency.

However, we enter college as independents and can do what we want. The way that we share and use our pools no longer contain limitations. The deep end is no longer roped off, and there is no lifeguard on duty.

Our previous attempts at "love" are still so important, despite how hairy, messy and painful they may have been. You've learned who you are, what you want and, most importantly, how you handle the changing waters.

A good relationship is in no way a stagnant and consistent phenomenon. It changes like the seasons. It sticks together through the scorching summers and even closure during the cold winters.

Love dies so that it can be born again, like a garden shared with your lover fed by the four seasons. If only I could take my eyes from my own scrapes and scars and get to tilling.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



THEIR WORD

Money: this election's biggest bipartisan winner

Orlando Sentinel

Forget blue states and red states. Green was the dominant color in election 2012.

The U.S. Supreme Court's 2010 Citizens United decision and other court rulings, along with permissive laws and regulations on the federal and state levels, allowed powerful special interests and individuals to pour an unprecedented amount of money, often secretly, into this year's races. Of course, these patrons will be expecting plenty in return for their support.

Here are some of this year's campaign finance lowlights:

Spending on races for federal office — president, U.S. Senate and U.S. House was expected to reach a record \$6 billion, about \$700 million more than in 2008, according to the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics.

That total represents enough to provide Pell grants to more than 1

million college students.

Instead, the money has been plowed into TV attack ads, junk mail, annoying robo calls and other elements deemed essential in modern campaigns. Feel better now?

This year's record spending has been boosted by nearly \$1 billion from super PACs and other outside groups. Citizens United cleared the way for super PACs to collect unlimited donations from corporations, unions and individuals to support or oppose political candidates.

Super PAC fundraising has been dominated by a small group of millionaire and billionaire magnates from industries including finance, gambling, entertainment and home-building, which have a huge stake in tax and regulatory policies pursued by the president and Congress.

At least super PACs are required to reveal their contributors. Some other independent groups active in political campaigns are allowed to

raise cash from undisclosed donors under the guise of nonprofit "social welfare organizations," as if they're Rotary clubs.

Yet groups in this category, such as Republican strategist Karl Rove's Crossroads GPS, have been among the top spenders on political attacks ads.

Democracy 21, a campaign-finance watchdog, estimates that up to \$400 million have been secretly pumped into this year's campaign through these organizations.

Both major party presidential nominees turned down public financing in the general election so that they could raise and spend as much money as possible — the first time that's happened since the system was created after the Watergate scandal to curb the corrupting power of money in presidential campaigns.

The candidates, their parties and the outside groups supporting them have spent more than \$1 billion on

TV ads — about double what was spent in 2008. The overwhelming majority were attack ads, a massive investment in voter cynicism and alienation.

In Florida, candidates for the state Legislature have been sidestepping the \$500 cap on individual contributions by creating political committees that can raise money without limits.

Republican Rep. Chris Dorworth of Lake Mary bankrolled more than \$200,000 of a final-week advertising barrage this way, tapping five-figure donations to one of his committees from Walt Disney World, the Florida Realtors and the Morgan & Morgan lawyers, whose new slogan should be "For the Power."

Legislators' committees disclose their donors, but often those committees end up contributing some of their funds to other committees. The more times the money gets laundered this way, the harder it is to trace the special interests behind it.

Unlimited contributions in both federal and state races give special interests an outsized influence on both the outcome of elections and the policies afterward. Ordinary Americans, who can't write huge checks to politicians, can't expect to compete.

Congress can't overturn Citizens United, but there are other steps lawmakers can take to reduce the insidious influence of big money in elections. They can begin by requiring full and immediate online disclosure of all contributors to campaigns intended to sway elections.

State lawmakers can get started by limiting contributions to fundraising committees — or better yet, banning them.

The longer that Congress and the Legislature wait to act, the more that the risk of corruption in federal and state government will grow, and the more that public confidence in both will suffer.

Submissions

Letters and guest columns must be submitted with author's contact information, preferably via email. Phone numbers are required to verify authorship, but will not be published. Letters are limited to 400 words and columns to 500 words. Students must include year and major. Faculty must include rank and department. Others include hometown. Submissions should be sent to opinion@dailyegyptian.com.

Notice

The DAILY EGYPTIAN is a "designated public forum." Student editors have the authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval. We reserve the right to not publish any letter or guest column.

TRUSTEES

CONTINUED FROM 1

“If you can reduce (credit hours), then you can reduce cost to Mom, Dad and the families,” he said.

Trustees also looked at SIUC student achievements and new campus research programs at Thursday’s meeting.

During her report, Cheng said a delegation, including herself, visited Cuba in September to investigate new education opportunities. She said the project resulted in a closer relationship with the University of Illinois.

“The people (in the delegation) are very interested in creating new educational opportunities for their students and for ours,” Cheng said.

Students will benefit from learning about Latin American and Caribbean history and politics, she said.

Cheng also congratulated Kathleen Campbell, a research scientist at the SIU School of Medicine who received FDA approval to test a drug created in her laboratory that can prevent and treat noise-induced hearing loss. The research is a breakthrough that could not only help millions of civilians, but also soldiers affected by war, she said.

Karsten Burgstahler can be reached at kburgstahler@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 254.

TOURISM

CONTINUED FROM 1

In June, Mayor Joel Fritzler said one problem the former CCTB struggled with was its inability to work well with other area businesses such as Carbondale Main Street, Carbondale Community Arts and Chamber of Commerce.

In light of this, Conley said the CCTB will communicate and collaborate with the Chamber of Commerce and other groups more frequently to promote cohesion between the bureau as well as the

rest of the community.

Conley said the CCTB’s doors are now open, and city residents are encouraged to come in if they have any questions about the new organization.

“I think what people will see is a much more public presentation from CCTB, not necessarily just in this area because that’s not necessarily where we’re supposed to promote, but more so in the 50 miles in out areas,” she said.

Among CCTB’s many planned changes, Conley said bringing people to the city will remain a major goal.

However, she said the organization hopes to go one step further.

Conley said a system will be organized for hotel guests to be asked where they visited from and why they are staying in the city. She said the information will be passed to the CCTB and recorded to see where Carbondale’s visitors come from and where the city may need to promote itself, as well as which types of events bring in the most people.

The CCTB will announce its full campaign as early as February or March, Conley said, and will give

the public a good. Idea about what it will offer.

Conley said she is excited to see what the new organization’s capabilities, and she is confident in its determination to make a better Carbondale.

“We’re all like-minded on this, and we’re ready to see things move forward,” she said. “With the current funding level we’re at, there’s no reason we shouldn’t be able to do a fantastic job.”

Austin Flynn can be reached at aflynn@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 257.

Aid

CONTINUED FROM 1

The three main sources of financial aid funding besides institutional aid are the federal Pell Grant, Stafford Loans, and the state level MAP grants, he said.

“We are doing the best we can — fiscally — under the circumstances,” Poshard said.

Federal financial aid has stayed stable, he said, but funding for the MAP grants has diminished.

“On the federal level, there is an agreement Congress made that proposes sequestration for January 1st, 2013 if no budget plan is approved,” Poshard said.

Cheng said an 8-percent decrease in Pell Grant funding would be enacted if sequestration happens. SIU currently receives \$28 million from the Pell Grant, she said.

“The Pell Grant is not sustainable because more students are needing financial assistance, but no additional funding is being put in,” Cheng said.

MAP grant competition grows each year, she said, and the grant’s fundings ran out in March for the fiscal year, a month earlier than usual.

“When it ran out, we had no forewarning or indication, so ... we were unable to inform students to apply if they were seeking state aid before it ran

out,” Cheng said. “In past years, we have received communication that it almost ran out.”

Cheng recommends students seeking aid to apply as soon as possible, because competition for the aid is only increasing.

As far as changes in the future of financial aid, Cheng said there is an expectation for families to contribute more and meet more specific qualifications.

“The stress for families to pay money for a college education is rising dramatically,” she said.

Beginning next year, students will not be eligible for the Pell Grant if they have poor academic standing or have been in

school longer than 12 semesters.

Terri Harfst, director of financial aid, said a subsidized loan change will also take place next year.

“From my vantage point, the Department of Education is not going to start paying financial aid indifferently anymore,” she said.

Harfst said while the need for financial aid is severe, that aid is not indefinite.

“With those two changes, this proves that they do not have unlimited resources in Washington,” she said.

For the rest of the story please visit www.dailyegyptian.com.

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Last minute MUSIC



LAURA ROBERTS | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Kevin Klicki, a junior from Arlington Heights studying biological science education, performs with members of Musicians United in Southern Illinois Carbondale, or MUSIC, Wednesday in the Student Center as part of the Coffee House Series. The group performed in place of an act that canceled and brought a variety of covered, original, and improvised songs. "I'm really glad we were able to get the exposure for MUSIC," said Torin Hopkins, a senior from Highland Park studying physiology, who also performed at the event. "It's an awesome band of musicians that come together. We like to do little shows like this and fill the niche gaps."

Ill. hospital tax break costs \$10M

Associated Press

CHICAGO — A little-noticed tax break for investor-owned hospitals that was tucked into a deal last spring aimed at saving the Illinois Medicaid program from collapse will cost the cash-strapped state at least \$10 million a year in lost revenue, according to an analysis by The Associated Press.

Hospital industry officials say the tax credit recognizes the free care they provide to the uninsured. But some state officials were puzzled about how for-profit hospitals were able to land a major tax break in the intense closed-door negotiations at a time Springfield was grappling with a dire financial crisis.

"I think we were surprised that it survived," said Mike Klemens, the since-retired manager of policy and communication for the state Department of Revenue. "We couldn't imagine the Legislature would be enacting something that would reduce their income tax revenue. We were shut out of the talks at the end."

After extensive wheeling and dealing, Gov. Pat Quinn signed a package of \$2.7 billion in cuts and tax increases in June and said was needed to save the state's bloated program for health care funding to the poor and disabled.

Thousands of working parents lost Medicaid coverage because of the cuts. Taxes on cigarettes went up. And hospitals faced tougher rules for when they must provide free care to poor patients who don't qualify for Medicaid.

"They can't afford to be giving away tax revenue at all" with an accumulated deficit of \$8 billion, said Ralph Martire, executive director of the bipartisan Center for Tax and Budget Accountability. "When they've got a hole of that magnitude in their existing budget, they're giving a tax credit to certain investors. That's saying we'd rather spend that \$10 million to subsidize the income of

these mostly affluent investors than use that \$10 million to pay for the core services we directly fund."

Highly involved in crafting the deal and seeing it through was A.J. Wilhelmi, who left the Illinois Senate in February to take a leadership post with IHA, the hospital lobbying group. His name is still listed as a legislative sponsor of the bill that included the tax break.

"It's good public policy to support the charitable activities of investor-owned hospitals. We want to encourage hospitals to continue to provide free and discounted care," Wilhelmi said in support of the tax credit.

Wilhelmi told the AP the hospital association estimated the tax break would cost "up to \$15 million a year," a number that was shared verbally during the negotiations but wasn't divulged to the public.

"It was certainly discussed in those meetings," Wilhelmi said. "Was this issue brought up in every session? I don't think that's the case."

Although some insiders knew about the \$15 million a year estimate from the hospital group, there was never a request for an official analysis of the impact on the state budget, according to the Illinois Department of Revenue.

There are 28 investor-owned hospitals in Illinois today, most owned by health systems that operate nationally like Nashville-based Vanguard Health Systems. Vanguard will reap an estimated \$5.5 million annually because of the break, according to the AP analysis.

A spokesman for the Quinn administration confirmed \$15 million was the high end of the hospital association's estimate. The figure was given without any documentation, spokesman Mike Claffey said.

If that number is more than the hospital's income tax liability — and it will be for many hospitals — the hospital will be able to sell all or part

of their tax credit to other businesses, according to the Department of Revenue. Hospitals will also be allowed to carry forward any excess credit and apply it to their tax liability for five tax years.

When Quinn signed the bill, he said he hoped it would result in more charity care. The tax credit, the governor hoped, would be an incentive for hospitals to do more for the poor.

Many of these hospitals already provide more charity care than they pay in property taxes, according to the AP analysis, although a few specialty hospitals report they provide none. Wilhelmi said the tax break could possibly motivate those hospitals to provide at least some free care.

A Tennessee-based hospital will receive the bulk of the tax credit.

Vanguard Health Systems Inc., which will reap an estimated \$5.5 million annually in tax credits for its four Illinois hospitals, posted a profit of \$57.3 million in fiscal 2012 after losses the previous two years. Its revenue rose 30 percent to nearly \$6 billion, partly because of hospital acquisitions.

Sonja Vogel, a spokeswoman for Vanguard Health Chicago, sent AP an email statement that cited "significant challenges" investor-owned hospitals are facing in Illinois. She said the company provided \$6.45 million in charity care and paid more than \$12 million in state and local taxes last year despite cuts in Medicaid and Medicare reimbursements and a state budget she called "unreliable."

Margaret Storey represents parents of medically fragile children who are fighting a \$15 million reduction to part of the Medicaid program. Coincidentally, that cut equals the hospital association's cost estimate for the tax credit.

"To know that tax credits were being given away at the same time these children's future with their families is being put at risk is just appalling," Storey said. "It makes you lose a little faith in your government when those kinds of deals get cut."

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| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
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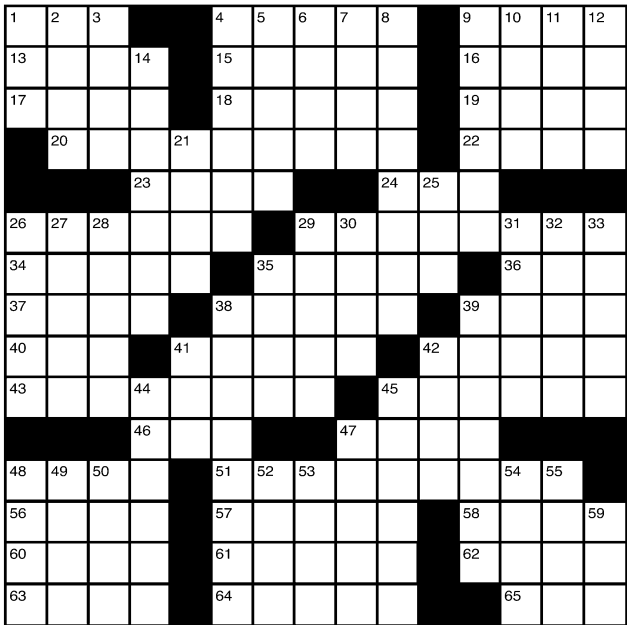
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THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Jacqueline E. Mathews

- ACROSS**
- 1 Peanut butter container
- 4 Of the city
- 9 Cut back on one's calories
- 13 Was in the red
- 15 Grand or spinet
- 16 Jealousy
- 17 Calendar period
- 18 Nincompoops
- 19 Small cut
- 20 Playwright
- 22 Bit of land surrounded by water
- 23 Gangsters' guns
- 24 Dusting cloth
- 26 Czech capital
- 29 Revolving
- 34 Very small home
- 35 Burn
- 36 Neither's partner
- 37 Not up yet
- 38 Makes well
- 39 "___ boy!"; words of encouragement
- 40 Knighted gent
- 41 Polars and grizzlies
- 42 Notions
- 43 Completely
- 45 Diagrams
- 46 Furious
- 47 Yankees or Dodgers
- 48 Swat
- 51 Well-known
- 56 Pocket bread
- 57 Happening
- 58 Lunchtime
- 60 TV's "American ___"
- 61 Sight or taste
- 62 Accept
- 63 Heavy book
- 64 Look of contempt
- 65 Morning grass moisture
- DOWN**
- 1 Happiness



- 2 Wonder-struck
- 3 Ship's stern
- 4 Modernize
- 5 Public revolts
- 6 Island near Java
- 7 Has ___ in one's pants; fidgets
- 8 Nasal openings
- 9 Blueprint
- 10 Hotels
- 11 Malicious
- 12 Sort; variety
- 14 Hauled
- 21 Injure by rough treatment
- 25 Most common conjunction
- 26 ___ in; introduce gradually
- 27 Batman's sidekick
- 28 Turn away, as the eyes
- 29 Frightening
- 30 Chums
- 31 Bury
- 32 ___ home; away
- 33 Lawn

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | A | N | D | S | | S | C | A | B | | T | A | F | T | |
| A | F | I | R | E | | H | A | I | L | | H | O | L | E | |
| R | A | C | E | R | | A | R | L | O | | W | R | E | N | |
| D | R | E | A | M | E | R | S | | A | B | A | T | E | S | |
| | | | | D | O | N | E | | I | T | E | R | A | T | E |
| D | O | E | S | N | T | | O | N | S | E | T | | | | |
| A | D | D | | S | E | A | L | S | | F | E | E | D | S | |
| L | O | G | S | | R | I | D | E | R | | D | R | O | P | |
| E | R | E | C | T | | M | E | T | A | L | | I | S | A | |
| | | | | R | I | S | E | N | | P | I | N | C | E | R |
| M | A | T | U | R | E | D | | L | I | M | A | | | | |
| E | L | A | T | E | D | | A | U | D | I | T | I | N | G | |
| T | I | K | I | | A | B | U | T | | T | I | B | I | A | |
| E | V | E | N | | T | O | N | E | | E | V | I | C | T | |
| D | E | N | Y | | E | A | T | S | | D | E | S | K | S | |

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Thursday's Answers:

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 1 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 9 |
| 7 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 6 |
| 6 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| 5 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 3 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 1 |
| 4 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 7 |
| 8 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 2 |
| 2 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 4 |

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contain every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 6 | | 1 | | | | 4 | 9 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | 8 | | 9 | | 6 | | 5 |
| | | 7 | | 5 | 3 | 9 | | |
| 3 | | | | 1 | | | | 2 |
| | | 9 | 8 | | | 7 | | |
| 2 | | 5 | | 6 | | 3 | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | 1 | | 5 | |

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.
M I X E D U P B Y :

APROE

VAKOD

DINNUW

GRINTS

Answer:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

Thursday's Answers: AMAZE STUNG SPIRAL POSTAL
When it came time to decide on a starting quarterback, the coach was — AT AN IMPASSE

Turn right at the next tree trunk and it will be another mile.

I'm glad you know where we're going.

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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Aries — Today is a 6 — Let the love carry you away, and be pleasantly surprised. You may encounter a dip in the learning curve, which becomes an educational experience in itself. Appreciate your home.

Taurus — Today is an 8 — Don't launch just yet (but soon). Your family is there for you, and friends help make connections. Others are feeling generous. Eat well to support new responsibilities.

Gemini — Today is an 8 — Postpone travel. Notice the beauty that surrounds you. Light candles at dinner. Save and invest in home and family. Enjoy simple pleasures.

Cancer — Today is a 7 — There's more money coming in, but things don't add up. Question old assumptions, and improve working conditions. A loving friend makes an excellent suggestion. Then a miracle happens. Ask.

Leo — Today is a 6 — Pass the test and win a promotion. Working at something you love brings abundance. Listen for the ring of truth. You don't have to control everything.

Virgo — Today is an 8 — Your gold is on the rise ... add to reserves. Do the research on a home project. Past good deeds bring new benefit while you play with friends.

Libra — Today is a 5 — Make your own luck (and pay cash). Balance work and fun by rewarding progress with play. A temporary setback could stall things. A generous offer requires thought. Question authority.

Scorpio — Today is a 7 — Take the roundabout route when necessary. Spend and invest later. Make sure you understand all of your options. Spend time with visiting friends. Feast and be merry!

Sagittarius — Today is a 7 — Indulge in a treat. Don't entertain yet. Take control of the details. Expand your horizons. Your career path is filled with optimism, and the outlook is positive.

Capricorn — Today is a 7 — Your past work speaks well for you. It's not a good time to travel. A beautiful dream enchants; grab a constructive opportunity. Acknowledge your team's efforts. Optimism increases. Let someone else set the agenda.

Aquarius — Today is a 5 — Gather in what you need. Accomplish your dream by providing excellent service. Stay out of someone else's fuss. You could fall in love now, or discover hidden bounty.

Pisces — Today is a 7 — You're energizing each other. Don't worry about money. Find treasures in your closets and trade. Restate each party's goals. Get a good recommendation from a friend. Reaffirm a commitment.

RUGBY

Men’s rugby kicks it into high gear



TIFFANY BLANCHETTE | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Junior rugby player Erik Bennett, left, chases freshman Patrick Ward, right, as other teammates trail behind during the men’s rugby club’s final practice of the season at the Upper Arena Fields. The club sits at 4-2 in the Gateway Conference and expects to qualify for nationals in the spring. Dan Unes, the club’s president, said he credits the team’s success to athleticism and great practice turnouts throughout the season. “When we get everyone to show up and practice what we want to do in the game, we can execute it,” he said. The club will travel to Nashville, Ky., Saturday to face Vanderbilt University for its final fall season game.

ALEX ROSTOWSKY
Daily Egyptian

Rugby is a physical sport, but the bitterness between competitors typically ends with the game.

Dan Unes, a senior from Peoria studying mechanical engineering, is in his first year as men’s rugby club president after three previous years on the team.

He said the rugby community is one reason why so many members have enjoyed their short experience with the game.

“In football, you don’t like the other team,” he said. “Before and after, it’s not fun. In rugby, you battle and go fight the guys, and at the end of the day, you have a party together and everyone becomes friends.”

On the field, the club has been anything but nice to its opponents. The team has won four of six games in the Gateway Conference, which was established earlier this year, including a victory against Division II powerhouse Central Missouri.

The club’s only two losses have been by a point each to Principia College and Saint Louis University. Unes said the team was missing a few starters against SLU.

This season, the club has around 40 registered members with a mix of rugby veterans and new players who Unes said wanted to go out on the field and hit somebody.

John Schiller, a senior from Wood Dale studying civil engineering, is playing rugby this semester for the first time. A lifelong football player, Schiller said rugby fills a void. Though the club’s record is respectable, he said the team is hungry.

“It’s hard to be happy with 4-2, especially when those losses were by (a combined) two points,” he said. “We’ve played well. In the spring, I expect us to win the conference tournament and go on to nationals.”

The club has not just done well with traditional 15-against-15 matches. The

team went 4-1 in an Oct. 27 seven-on-seven tournament hosted by Central Missouri that put SIU in second place.

Joe O’Neil is in his third year with the club. O’Neil, a junior from Peoria studying mechanical engineering, said although the team may be smaller this year, it’s much quicker.

“We’ve got a few good stars,” he said. “We got a few guys that can take the ball and do crazy stuff with it.”

O’Neil, like Schiller, said making it to the national tournament in the spring is the team’s main objective.

“If we don’t go to the national tournament, I think we will have not succeeded at our goal for this year,” he said. “I think we’ve come a long way, but if we don’t get there, we’ll all be very disappointed.”

He said the competition in the new conference has been good, especially because of the unfamiliar teams.

Unes said he enjoys the conference overall, but it lacks rugby tradition.

“One thing that we have had a problem with the Gateway is that the teams haven’t set us up after the games,” he said. “After all of our home games, we have beer and food for every team.”

Along with the conference and subsequent spring national tournaments, the club will host its annual “All Fools Classic” in April.

Unes said he has also been in touch with club representatives from the University of Memphis, the University of Missouri and the University of Tennessee at Martin who have attempted to branch out and play an established club such as SIU’s.

The sport is expanding on college campuses throughout the United States, especially in the Midwest and the South, but it has already become tradition at SIU.

“Everybody should learn how to play this sport,” O’Neil said. “It’s a great game.”

The men’s rugby club will return to competition Saturday against Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

D.E.

Weekly Bark



The Los Angeles Lakers have lost four of their last five games with their most recent loss 95-86 against the Utah Jazz. The Lakers started the season at 0-3 for the first time in the team’s history. Is this the beginning of the end, or can Los Angeles turn around its dismal season start?



Alex Rostowsky

Five games into this season is too soon to crown a champion or write a team off. This Lakers team will be good. There’s no doubt about it. Right now, though, its stars are just getting used to one another. They will get better as the season progresses. However, I don’t think this team is capable of winning a championship with Mike Brown as coach. The Lakers will go at least two rounds deep in the playoffs.

The Lakers have Dwight Howard, and he will give the team 20-25 wins. The question to me isn’t whether Los Angeles will improve, but when will they dominate the western conference? The team has three potential Hall of Famers. Teams with that many standouts usually make the playoffs. Relax, people. Kobe Bryant is still a Laker.



Demario Phipps-Smith



Gus Bode

The 1-4 Los Angeles Lakers are in a similar situation as the 2010-2011 Miami Heat when they brought in LeBron James and Chris Bosh that summer. That Miami team made it to the NBA finals when people wrote it off at the season’s start, which is similar to what people are doing with the Lakers this season. The team will learn to work together as the season progresses, and Mike Brown will eventually coach this team to the western conference’s No. 1 seed.